

MAURICE D. HINCHEY
22ND DISTRICT, NEW YORK

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2431 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3222
(202) 225-6335

www.house.gov/hinchey

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3222

April 19, 2011

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The Honorable Robert S. Mueller III, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
U.S. Department of Justice
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Mueller:

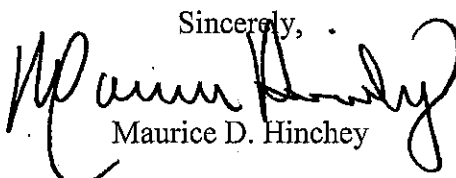
I am writing as a follow-up to my February 28 letter to you regarding the FBI's proposed relocation of New York Field Office's Hudson Valley Resident Agency (HVRA). As I noted in my prior correspondence, I am strongly supportive of the FBI relocating the HVRA offices from Goshen to the City of Newburgh, which I believe would be tremendously helpful in combating the high incidence of drug and gang violence in New York's most dangerous small city. The HVRA's relocation to Newburgh has been supported by Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, Orange County Executive Edward Diana, the Orange County Legislature, and the City of Newburgh.

I appreciated your comments to Senator Schumer during recent Congressional hearings noting that your agency would reconsider the delineated area for the HVRA office relocation and would consider locations in the City of Newburgh. However, the FBI's Assistant Director personally indicated to me that the FBI would not include the City of Newburgh in its delineated area due to the fact that the City of Newburgh is in a different Congressional District than the one in which the HVRA is currently located. According to the General Services Administration (GSA), the FBI has instructed GSA only to look at properties within the 19th Congressional District, which does not include the City of Newburgh.

I would appreciate you clarifying the FBI's position on the inclusion of the City of Newburgh in the delineated area for the HVRA relocation and also request an explanation of the legal basis for the apparent decision thus far that the HVRA cannot be relocated in a different Congressional District, despite broad support for doing so.

Relocating the HVRA offices to Newburgh would be an important and meaningful step toward improving the safety of our entire region. I look forward to your response and appreciate your personal attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Maurice D. Hinchey

BINGHAMTON OFFICE:
100A FEDERAL BUILDING
BINGHAMTON, NY 13901
(607) 773-2768

ITHACA OFFICE:
123 SOUTH CAYUGA STREET
SUITE 201
ITHACA, NY 14850
(607) 273-1388

KINGSTON OFFICE:
291 WALL STREET
KINGSTON, NY 12401
(845) 331-4466

MIDDLETOWN OFFICE:
CITY HALL, THIRD FLOOR
16 JAMES STREET
MIDDLETOWN, NY 10840
(845) 344-3211

MONTICELLO OFFICE:
18 ANAWANA LAKE ROAD
MONTICELLO, NY 12701
(845) 791-7116